

5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



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This Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Mulberry Street Drainage Improvements and Sidewalks Project has assessed the cultural resource sensitivity of the recommended project APE within the town of Milton, Delaware. The recommended project APE has low potential to contain undocumented archaeological resources. The recommended project APE contains significant architectural resources in its southern portion, but not in its northern portion. Each resource will be discussed separately below.

5.1 Archaeology

No historic or prehistoric archaeological sites were recorded in the recommended project APE, and modern improvements to Mulberry Street and S.R. 0016, in conjunction with the installation of buried utilities, have compromised the integrity of the recommended project APE soils. Any potential cultural remains would be limited to backyard artifact deposits associated with the mid-nineteenth-century residences located along Mulberry Street between Clifton Street and Magnolia Street. These potential deposits, however, are located outside of the recommended project APE. No intact cultural deposits are expected in the recommended project APE, given the significant disturbance from the roadway activities.

5.2 Historic Architecture

The recommended Mulberry Street Drainage Improvements and Sidewalks project APE contains a variety of architectural resources. The southern portion of the APE corridor includes three contributing structures to the Milton Historic District and several mid-nineteenth-century dwellings, presenting high sensitivity for significant architectural resources. The northern portion of the recommended project APE contains low sensitivity for significant architectural resources based on the examples of late-twentieth-century residential and commercial structures adjacent to Mulberry Street. The structures within the recommended project APE have been surveyed as part of the architectural background research for the Milton Historic District nomination form.

Despite the limited presence of historic architectural resources, no additional architectural survey

work is recommended. The recommended project APE exhibits modern intrusions, such as aerial utilities, street signs, and sidewalks, compromising the historic viewshed of the Mulberry Street corridor. The introduction of new sidewalks and drainage improvements along Mulberry Street from Magnolia Street to S.R. 0016 will not constitute an adverse effect, as non-historic visual elements already have impacted the recommended APE. In addition, proposed improvements will be limited to within the existing street right-of-way and will not impact any adjacent structures. However, activities such as the removal of existing paving materials, signal light and electric poles, and the construction of new sidewalks may create damaging vibrations proximate to the historic structures. Demolition and construction activities should be planned carefully and monitored so that no collateral damage occurs to these structures.

In summary, the proposed improvements for the Mulberry Street Drainage Improvements and Sidewalks project will not impact any archaeological or architectural resources located within the recommended project APE.